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PATENT

Practitioner's Docket No.: 939_030

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Akira MATSUMOTO, Masashi FUKUYAMA

Ser. No.: 09/976,462

Art Unit: 2872

Filed: October 12, 2001


Examiner: Lavarias, Arnel C.

For: FIBER ARRAY, METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE SAME AND OPTICAL
DEVICE USING THE FIBER ARRAY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV 443367209 US.

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 29, 2004.


Gina M. Husak

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d)

TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after*:

- (1) a final action under § 1.113,
- (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or
- (3) an Office Action that closes prosecution,

but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee.

STATEMENT AND FEE

2. In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d):

- A. Accompanying this transmittal is a statement, as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e).
- B. Applicant(s) submit(s) the submission fee set forth in § 1.17(p) (\$180.00).



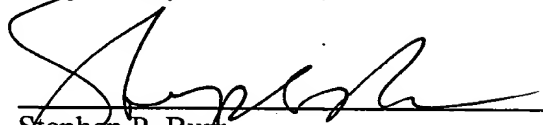
- 2 -

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE

3. ☒ Attached is a check in the amount of \$180.00.
☐ Charge Account 50-1446 in the amount of _____.
A duplicate of this paper is attached.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen P. Burr
Reg. No. 32,970

March 29, 2004
Date

SPB/gmh

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Serial No.: 09/976,462

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Confirmation No.: 9975

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Gina M. Husak

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Sir:

☒ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was *first* cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

OR

☐ No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

March 29, 2004

Date

Respectfully submitted,

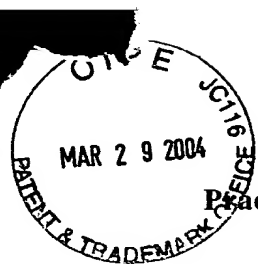

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Ser. No.: 09/976,462

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Gina M. Husak

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a European Office Action bearing a mailing date of February 26, 2004 from a corresponding European patent application, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

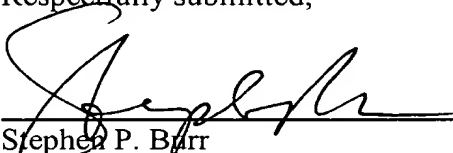
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.



- 2 -

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen P. Burr
Reg. No. 32,970

March 29, 2004
Date

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Form PTO-1449

US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	09/976,462
Filing Date	October 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Akira MATSUMOTO
Art Unit	2872
Examiner Name	Lavarias, Arnel C.
Confirmation No.	9975
Attorney Docket No.	939_030

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Exam. Initial		Application/ Publication Number	Filing/ Publication Date	Inventor Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
	AI	EP 0729044	08/28/1996	EP				
	AJ	WO 90/04194	04/19/1990	WO				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003 on the PTO website, we are not enclosing copies of any of the above U.S. references.